

## **Abington Township Emergency Management** 1166 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001-3795 267-536-1059

This message is to share the latest information to educate our residents on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) as well as the best practices that are being recommended by the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) to mitigate the spread of this virus. We have been tracking this issue closely since December, 2019 when it first emerged in China and have been in contact with our partners in the healthcare field and the Montgomery County Department of Health (MCDOH) to ensure that we are adequately prepared for this healthcare threat.

The MCDOH is the primary response agency to this crisis in Montgomery County and they will be tracking and investigating any potential local exposures to Coronavirus. Abington Township works closely with the MCDOH in planning, training and responding to these types of public health threats and we are prepared to fulfill our role in assisting the MCDOH as a support agency during this crisis.

It has recently been reported that there are several "presumptive" cases of Coronavirus in Montgomery County. Those patients are exhibiting relatively mild symptoms, are self-isolating in their homes, and are being closely monitored by the MCDOH. None of the cases are located in Abington Township, but our healthcare facilities and first responders are prepared to respond in the event one should occur in Abington.

The most important thing you can do right now is to stay informed, follow the guidance from the CDC on how to minimize your risk of exposure and not panic. Current guidance from the CDC is to utilize effective personal hygiene practices, such as frequent washing of hands, refraining from touching your face, and staying home from work/school if you are sick. For additional guidance, please refer to the CDC Coronavirus website.

When educating yourself and your family and friends on the Coronavirus, refer to direct sources such as the <u>CDC's Coronavirus webpage</u>, the <u>World Health Organization</u> (WHO), the <u>Pennsylvania Department of Health</u> (PADOH) and the <u>MCDOH Coronavirus</u> webpage. These are the best places stay updated on the most current and accurate information available. Avoid relying on secondary news sources such as social media.

Finally, please find attached an informational flyer from the CDC with details about the Coronavirus. For additional information, please visit the links below to the CDC's Coronavirus webpage, WHO, PADOH and MCDOH which gives greater detail on strategies and best practices to mitigate this threat.

**CDC Coronavirus Website** 

World Health Organization Coronavirus Website

Pennsylvania Department of Health Website

Montgomery County Department of Health Coronavirus Website

Abington Township Emergency Management will continuously monitor this public health risk and keep our residents informed on any additional pertinent information as we receive it.